

III. REMARKS

In this Amendment, claims 1, 6, 11, and 16 have been amended. All amendments are supported by the specification. In particular, these claims have been amended to recite that the object prompt is separate “in object oriented programming terms from the report in which it is contained such that each of the inner and outer prompt objects may be used more than once in a single report or may be used in more than one report and answers to the prompt object may be stored in association with the prompt object for later retrieval” This amendment is supported in the specification. Specification, p. 2, line 6 - p. 3, line 10. Claims 2-5, 7-10, 12-15, and 17-20 remain unchanged.

In sum, claims 1-20 are pending after entry of this Amendment.

Rejection of Claims 1-20 Under 35 U.S.C. §102 As Anticipated by Yost

Claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,154,766 to Yost et al. (“Yost”). Applicants note that Yost is commonly owned with the present application. Yost discloses:

A system for automatic generation of personalized output from an on-line analytical processing system. The system processes at least one scheduled service in an on-line analytical processing system and generates personalized output based on personalization information for subscribers of the service to one or more subscriber output devices. The system enables a user to specify global and service-specific personalization information including specification of multidimensional filters to be applied to services and the specification of trigger criteria to be satisfied before output is generated. Personalization information may also be set for each output device for a particular subscriber.

Yost Abstract.

Claims 1-20 recite a “prompt object.” Although Yost discloses prompts, Yost does not disclose a “prompt *object*” (emphasis added). A prompt object is an object embodied in software code that exists separate from the reports, filters, and templates (and the like) that use them.

Applicants prior response is incorporated by reference as to differences already described related

to Yost. Nevertheless, to make the record clear between the difference between use of prompts and prompt objects, additional language from the specification has been incorporated into the independent claims.

Yost does not disclose or suggest the amended feature. In regard to report definition, there is nothing to suggest that any prompts are objects in object-oriented terms or that answers may be stored in association with the prompt object for later use.

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully request that the instant rejection of claims 1-20 be withdrawn.

IV. CONCLUSION

For all the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome or rendered moot. Further, all pending claims are patentably distinguishable over the prior art of record. Any amendments are supported by the specification. Applicants accordingly submit that these claims are in a condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested.


This response is submitted within the three month shortened statutory period for reply. Therefore, no extension of time fees are necessary. Authorization is hereby granted to debit or credit our Deposit Account No. 50-0206 for any fees or credits, including any extra claims fee.

Respectfully submitted,

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